

For the past 10 years, Lenny has been a fixture in this Chamber. Since 1985, she's run the Democratic page program here in the House.

She'll proudly tell you that before she ever came to the House she worked for the Kennedy White House.

But if you've ever wondered how a group of 15- and 16-year-old pages can travel hundreds of miles from their families, and away from their friends, to a strange city, and be made to feel like they're right at home: Lenny Donnelly is the reason.

She doesn't have any special secrets. She just treats the pages like people.

She takes an interest in their lives; she listens to their problems; she makes them proud of their accomplishments; and by believing in them, she helps them believe in themselves.

Mr. Speaker, the pages who are lucky enough to serve in this body will remember a lot of things about Washington. But when people ask them what they'll remember the most—my guess is that they'll say "Lenny Donnelly."

Lenny, the young people you have taught—and the lessons you have taught them—will survive long after you're gone from this Chamber. And that's something to be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, another good friend leaving us this week after years of dedicated service is one of the hardest working people on Capitol Hill, a sweet and decent man named Keith Jewell.

For the past 30 years, Keith has seen and heard it all on Capitol Hill.

As the House photographer his eye has been the eye of the Nation.

During his tenure, Keith has served under six Speakers. He was the first photographer to capture a still image of a joint session of Congress.

He photographed seven American Presidents. And as director of the Office of photography, he has coordinated more than 19,000 appointments each year—from the Queen of England right down to children on their first visit to the Nation's Capitol.

And through it all he's remained the same patient, friendly man he's always been.

Keith, you've made a lot of us look good over the years—even on the most hectic days.

We're all going to miss the sight of you racing around this building carrying four or five cameras, with straps hanging around your neck, and that camera bag at your side.

But someday, when there is nobody left to remember the sound of the voices in this Chamber today, America will still look back on the images you have captured with your camera and they're going to remember—as will we all.

Mr. Speaker, this is a sad week for all of us.

All of us are proud to have worked with Lenny and Keith—and proud to call them friends.

And even though we're all going to miss them, I promise you this: We're never going to forget them.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I would add, before a final statement for Lenny, Keith Jewell is one of the finest people with whom of us have had the opportunity to work. It is a shame he is leaving. I am not going to discuss further the fact of why he has decided to leave, but I want to say that this House will be a lesser place for his loss.

He and Lenny Donnelly have brought a true commitment to this institution, not just to us as individuals, not just to the pages and the Members, but to all of the people who have come in contact with this institution.

The page system, I think, Mr. Speaker, is a uniquely important part of this institution. It allows young people to come from throughout the United States, spend some time not just in the Capital of their Nation but in the people's House, seeing day to day the operations of democracy, seeing, frankly, firsthand that the Members here on both sides of the aisle, liberals, conservatives, moderates, independent, work hard and care about their country, care about their oath of office.

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Mr. Speaker, I think they carry back with them a special insight that they then impart to their peers who, I think, have a little better respect for their democracy, for the education that they received from our pages.

Lenny Donnelly, Peggy, others who on a day-to-day basis deal with our pages, perform a great service for this institution, but, in a broader sense, a great service for our democracy.

Lenny, we will miss you. We know that you and Ray are about, in a few short days, to travel to Ireland. Now, I do not know that a Donnelly will be very excited about going to Ireland, but I have a suspicion that that is probably the case and I am sure they will welcome you there.

We look forward to your swift and safe return as we welcome you with open arms and deep gratitude every time you return. Good luck and Godspeed.

Mr. SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHAYS). I thank the gentleman and thank all people who work for this wonderful Chamber.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CONVENTION CENTER AND SPORTS ARENA AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to call up the bill (H.R. 2108), to permit the Washington Convention Center Authority to expend revenues for the operation and maintenance of the existing Washington Convention Center and for preconstruction activities relating to a new convention center in the District of Columbia, to permit a designated authority of the District of Columbia to borrow funds for the preconstruction activities relating to a sports arena in the District of Columbia and to permit certain reve-

nues to be pledged as security for the borrowing of such funds, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, under my reservation, I ask the chairman of the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia to explain the bill.

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, if the gentlewoman will yield, H.R. 2108 is a straightforward bill which allows the District of Columbia to move forward on two very important economic development projects—the MCI arena at Gallery Place and a new convention center.

These projects will provide thousands of jobs of the type most needed in the District of Columbia and hundreds of millions of dollars in economic activity and tax revenues for our Nation's Capital.

This bill is very narrowly crafted and specifically directs each item for which expenditures may be made. Also, the independent nature of both the Washington Convention Center Authority and the Redevelopment Land Agency, which is the lead agency on the arena project, mean that the power and influence of the Mayor and the Council are sharply curtailed and less than would have been the case if these projects had proceeded without this legislation. I want Members to know that the entities directing these projects are independent of the Mayor and have both the legal and fiduciary responsibility for their actions.

This legislation does not create or raise taxes in the District of Columbia. The funds authorized to be expended by this legislation are already being collected and deposited in an escrow account. Last year the Council passed dedicated tax sources for these economic development projects and directed the funds into escrow accounts. The moneys involved are not part of the District's general fund, could not be spent for any other purpose, and this spending will not increase the District's deficit.

Under the narrow focus of this legislation and considering the economic benefits for the District of Columbia and the entire National Capital region from these projects, I ask Members to support H.R. 2108.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. DAVIS] for his explanation.

Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. GUTKNECHT].

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a special thank you and tribute to both the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. DAVIS] and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON] because they have worked very hard on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I was one of the few Members of the Congress who got a chance, 2 weeks ago, to take a tour of the areas where these two facilities are going to be built. I also want to say a special tribute to the business community, because I think they have all pulled together on this, and particularly to the Pollin family.

Mr. Speaker, I would say to my fellow Members, and particularly any of those on this side of the aisle, this city essentially has two industries. One is Government, the other is tourism and the hospitality industry. I did not know, until I took that tour, that actually the hospitality industry is the largest employer here in the District of Columbia.

While those of us on this side of the aisle are doing our best to reduce the size of the Federal Government, I think we have some responsibility to do what we can to increase the size of that other industry. So, Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I again congratulate the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON], the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. DAVIS], and the business community for working together. I think these are going to be projects that will be a tremendous attraction for the people of Washington, DC, and for people all over the United States of America. I think they are going to be a giant step forward in terms of rebuilding the economic infrastructure here in the District.

Mr. Speaker, I hope everyone joins me in supporting H.R. 2108.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his strong support and his work in the committee on this and other bills for the District.

Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, we are bringing to this House a bipartisan bill that has the unanimous support of the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia and that will significantly increase the revenue of the District entirely from private resources.

H.R. 2108, the District of Columbia Convention Center and Sports Arena Authorization Act of 1995, allows for the release of dedicated tax funds that are not part of the District's general fund revenues for preliminary work for a new convention center, and the lands acquisition and site cleanup for a new sports arena.

This bill is here today only because the projects themselves will be financed largely by private parties and businesses. If the financial crisis of the District of Columbia is to be cured, and not merely temporarily stayed, it will take financial ventures such as these to grow the city's economy and create new opportunities for residents and businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I want to once again express my thanks to the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. DAVIS], chairman of the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia, for his collegial and expeditious consideration of my bill and to

the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. CLINGER], chairman of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight for the same. Their efforts show how much can be accomplished when Members reach out in genuine bipartisan resolve to solve problems. Thank you very much.

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted that the D.C. Subcommittee's ranking member, ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, and the subcommittee's chairman, TOM DAVIS have worked together in a bipartisan manner to develop H.R. 2108, a bill which would enable District government to spend its own locally raised revenues for the preconstruction work essential to move the District of Columbia's proposed new sports arena and convention center projects forward.

The arena and convention center are indispensable to the economic revitalization of the Nation's Capital. Together they hold the potential to create hundreds of jobs and bring millions of dollars of badly needed revenue to this city. They will also generate many spinoff business opportunities that will also contribute to the District's recovery.

Particularly noteworthy about these two projects is the public/private partnership which brought them about. In each case, the local business community gave its support to the imposition of special taxes which its members will pay to fund land acquisition and preconstruction activities. It is also significant that the new sports arena will be built entirely with private funds by the owner of the District's professional basketball and hockey teams.

Investments such as these, made during a period when the District is experiencing severe financial distress, are strong indications that this city does have a promising future.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the approval of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection, and ask all Members to support H.R. 2108.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 2108

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "District of Columbia Convention Center and Sports Arena Authorization Act of 1995".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—CONVENTION CENTER

Sec. 101. Permitting Washington Convention Center Authority to spend revenues for convention center activities.

TITLE II—SPORTS ARENA

Sec. 201. Permitting designated authority to borrow funds for preconstruction activities relating to Gallery Place sports arena.

Sec. 202. Permitting certain District revenues to be pledged as security for borrowing.

Sec. 203. No appropriation necessary for arena preconstruction activities.

Sec. 204. Arena preconstruction activities described.

TITLE III—WAIVER OF CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW

Sec. 301. Waiver of Congressional review of Arena Tax Payment and Use Amendment Act of 1995.

TITLE I—CONVENTION CENTER

SEC. 101. PERMITTING WASHINGTON CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY TO EXPAND REVENUES FOR CONVENTION CENTER ACTIVITIES.

(a) PERMITTING EXPENDITURE WITHOUT APPROPRIATION.—The fourth sentence of section 446 of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act (sec. 47-304, D.C. Code) shall not apply with respect to any revenues of the District of Columbia which are attributable to the enactment of title III of the Washington Convention Center Authority Act of 1994 (D.C. Law 10-188) and which are obligated or expended for the activities described in subsection (b).

(b) ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.—The activities described in this paragraph are—

(1) the operation and maintenance of the existing Washington Convention Center; and

(2) preconstruction activities with respect to a new convention center in the District of Columbia, including land acquisition and the conducting of environmental impact studies, architecture and design studies, surveys, and site acquisition.

TITLE II—SPORTS ARENA

SEC. 201. PERMITTING DESIGNATED AUTHORITY TO BORROW FUNDS FOR PRECONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES RELATING TO GALLERY PLACE SPORTS ARENA.

(a) PERMITTING BORROWING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The designated authority may borrow funds through the issuance of revenue bonds, notes, or other obligations which are secured by revenues pledged in accordance with paragraph (2) to finance, refinance, or reimburse the costs of arena preconstruction activities described in section 204 if the designated authority is granted the authority to borrow funds for such purposes by the District of Columbia government.

(2) REVENUE REQUIRED TO SECURE BORROWING.—The designated authority may borrow funds under paragraph (1) to finance, refinance, or reimburse the costs of arena preconstruction activities described in section 204 only if such borrowing is secured (in whole or in part) by the pledge of revenues of the District of Columbia which are attributable to the sports arena tax imposed as a result of the enactment of D.C. Law 10-128 (as amended by the Arena Tax Amendment Act of 1994 (D.C. Act 10-315)) and which are transferred by the Mayor of the District of Columbia to the designated authority pursuant to section 302(a-1)(3) of the Omnibus Budget Support Act of 1994 (sec. 47-2752(a-1)(3), D.C. Code) (as amended by section 2(b) of the Arena Tax Payment and Use Amendment Act of 1995).

(b) TREATMENT OF DEBT CREATED.—Any debt created pursuant to subsection (a) shall not—

(1) be considered general obligation debt of the District of Columbia for any purpose, including the limitation on the annual aggregate limit on debt of the District of Columbia under section 603(b) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act (sec. 47-313(b), D.C. Code);

(2) constitute the lending of the public credit for private undertakings for purposes of section 602(a)(2) of such Act (sec. 1-233(a)(2), D.C. Code); or

(3) be a pledge of or involve the full faith and credit of the District of Columbia.

(c) DESIGNATED AUTHORITY DEFINED.—The term "designated authority" means the Redevelopment Land Agency or such other District of Columbia government agency or instrumentality designated by the Mayor of the District of Columbia for purposes of carrying out any arena preconstruction activities.

SEC. 202. PERMITTING CERTAIN DISTRICT REVENUES TO BE PLEDGED AS SECURITY FOR BORROWING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The District of Columbia (including the designated authority described in section 201(c)) may pledge as security for any borrowing undertaken pursuant to section 201(a) any revenues of the District of Columbia which are attributable to the sports arena tax imposed as a result of the enactment of D.C. Act 10-128 (as amended by the Arena Tax Amendment Act of 1994 (D.C. Law 10-315)), upon the transfer of such revenues by the Mayor of the District of Columbia to the designated authority pursuant to section 302(a-1)(3) of the Omnibus Budget Support Act of 1994 (sec. 47-2752(a-1)(3), D.C. Code) (as amended by section 2(b) of the Arena Tax Payment and Use Amendment Act of 1995).

(b) EXCLUSION OF PLEDGED REVENUES FROM CALCULATION OF ANNUAL AGGREGATE LIMIT OF DEBT.—Any revenues pledged as security by the District of Columbia pursuant to subsection (a) shall be excluded from the determination of the dollar amount equivalent to 14 percent of District revenues under section 603(b)(3)(A) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act (sec. 47-313(b)(3)(A), D.C. Code).

SEC. 203. NO APPROPRIATION NECESSARY FOR ARENA PRECONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES.

The fourth sentence of section 446 of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act (sec. 47-304, D.C. Code) shall not apply with respect to any of the following obligations or expenditures:

(1) Borrowing conducted pursuant to section 201(a).

(2) The pledging of revenues as security for such borrowing pursuant to section 202(a).

(3) The payment of principal, interest, premium, debt servicing, contributions to reserves, or other costs associated with such borrowing.

(4) Other obligations or expenditures made to carry out any arena preconstruction activity described in section 204.

SEC. 204. ARENA PRECONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.

The arena preconstruction activities described in this section are as follows:

(1) The acquisition of real property (or rights in real property) to serve as the site of the sports arena and related facilities.

(2) The clearance, preparation, grading, and development of the site of the sports arena and related facilities, including the demolition of existing buildings.

(3) The provision of sewer, water, and other utility facilities and infrastructure related to the sports arena.

(4) The financing of a Metrorail connection to the site and other Metrorail modifications related to the sports arena.

(5) The relocation of employees and facilities of the District of Columbia government displaced by the construction of the sports arena and related facilities.

(6) The use of environmental, legal, and consulting services (including services to obtain regulatory approvals) for the construction of the sports arena.

(7) The financing of administrative and transaction costs incurred in borrowing funds pursuant to section 201(a), including

costs incurred in connection with the issuance, sale, and delivery of bonds, notes, or other obligations.

(8) The financing of other activities of the District of Columbia government associated with the development and construction of the sports arena, including the reimbursement of the District of Columbia government or others for costs incurred prior to the date of the enactment of this Act which were related to the sports arena, so long as the designated authority determines that such costs are adequately documented and that the incurring of such costs was reasonable.

TITLE III—WAIVER OF CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW

SEC. 301. WAIVER OF CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF ARENA TAX PAYMENT AND USE AMENDMENT ACT OF 1995.

Notwithstanding section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, the Arena Tax Payment and Use Amendment Act of 1995 (D.C. Act 11-115) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and the motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material thereon on H.R. 2108.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

AUTHORIZING SPEAKER AND MINORITY LEADER TO ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS AND MAKE APPOINTMENTS, NOTWITHSTANDING ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding any adjournment of the House until Wednesday, September 6, 1995, the Speaker and the minority leader be authorized to accept resignations and to make appointments authorized by law or by the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, September 6, 1995.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

GRANTING MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE PRIVILEGE TO EXTEND AND REVISE REMARKS IN CONGRESSIONAL RECORD THROUGH FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that for the legislative days of Wednesday, August 2, Thursday, August 3, and Friday, August 4, 1995, all Members be permitted to extend their remarks and to include extraneous material in that section of the RECORD entitled "Extension of Remarks."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

DESIGNATION OF HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS THROUGH SEPTEMBER 6, 1995

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
August 4, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable THOMAS M. DAVIS to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through September 6, 1995.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the designation is agreed to. There was no objection.

PROPOSED AGREEMENT BETWEEN GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND GOVERNMENT OF REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA FOR CO-OPERATION IN PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 104-108)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit to the Congress, pursuant to sections 123 b. and 123 d. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2153(b), (d)), the text of a proposed Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria for Cooperation in the Field of Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy with accompanying annex and agreed minute. I am also pleased to transmit my written approval, authorization, and determination concerning the agreement, and the memorandum of the Director of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency with the Nuclear Proliferation Assessment Statement concerning the agreement. The joint memorandum